

REMARKS

Claim 27 was pending and under consideration in the above-identified application.

Claims 1-26 were cancelled in a previous amendment and remain cancelled.

In the Office Action of October 28, 2009, claim 27 was rejected.

With this Amendment, claim 27 is amended.

I. 35 U.S.C. § 103 Obviousness Rejection of Claims

Claim 27 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being anticipated *Nishizawa et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,122,881) in view of *Arakawa* (U.S. Patent No. 6,031,571). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

In relevant part, independent claim 1 recites a pixel unit having a selection element connected between an amplifying element and a horizontal signal line, a reset selection circuit element connected between a horizontal reset line and an input of a reset element and a vertical scanning line connected to an input of the reset selection circuit and an input of the selection circuit where the selection element and the reset selection element are both controlled by the same vertical scanning signal.

This clearly unlike *Nishizawa* or *Arakawa* which both fail to disclose or even fairly suggest a pixel unit having a selection element connected between an amplifying element and a horizontal signal line, a reset selection circuit element connected between a horizontal reset line and an input of a reset element and a vertical scanning line connected to an input of the reset selection circuit and an input of the selection circuit where the selection element and the reset selection element are both controlled by the same vertical scanning signal. Instead, *Nishizawa* discloses a reset switch Q1 connected to a row selection switch Q10 via a first row selection line where the row selection switch Q10 provides a reset signal based on a first signal and a pixel selection switch Q3 located in the pixel that provides a selection signal based on a second signal

which is separate from the first signal. See, U.S. Pat. No. 5,122,881, Col. 4, l. 2-29. This cannot be fairly viewed as a pixel which includes a reset selection element and a selection element which provide reset and selection signals based on a single vertical scanning signal because *Nishizawa* discloses a row selection switch Q10 located outside a pixel and a selection switch Q3 located inside a pixel that are controlled by two separate signals and not the same signal.

Arakawa fails to disclose any type of selection circuit, much less a pixel unit having a selection element connected between an amplifying element and a horizontal signal line, a reset selection circuit element connected between a horizontal reset line and an input of a reset element and a vertical scanning line connected to an input of the reset selection circuit and an input of the selection circuit where the selection element and the reset selection element are both controlled by the same vertical scanning signal.

As the Applicant's specification discloses, by providing a pixel unit having a selection element connected between an amplifying element and a horizontal signal line, a reset selection circuit element connected between a horizontal reset line and an input of a reset element and a vertical scanning line connected to an input of the reset selection circuit and an input of the selection circuit where the selection element and the reset selection element are both controlled by the same vertical scanning signal, the photodiode is completely reset and fixed pattern noise is eliminated thereby increasing image quality. See, 2004/0080644, Para. [0087].

Therefore, because *Nishizawa*, *Arakawa* or any combination of them fails to disclose or even fairly suggest every feature of claim 27, the rejection cannot stand.

II. Conclusion

In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicants submit that all claims are clearly allowable over the cited prior art, and respectfully request early and favorable notification to that effect.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: February 25, 2010

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